

SERVICE DATE – LATE RELEASE JANUARY 22, 2007

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Ex Parte No. 646 (Sub-No. 1)

SIMPLIFIED STANDARDS FOR RAIL RATE CASES

Decided: January 22, 2007

The Board will hold a public hearing to provide interested persons an opportunity to express their views on the subject of simplified standards for rail rate cases. The public hearing will take place on Wednesday, January 31, 2007, beginning at 9:00 a.m., in the 7th floor hearing room at the Board's headquarters in the Mercury Building, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC.

The Board announced the hearing by notice served on December 19, 2006, and established due dates for persons wishing to speak at the hearing to advise the Board of their intent to participate and request a time allotment. Based on those submissions, the Board is issuing this decision to set the schedule of speakers for the hearing.

The schedule of appearances and the time provided for each party appear in the Appendix to this decision. The Board is aware of the many issues raised in this proceeding and, in order to address as many of these issues as possible, encourages witnesses to complement, rather than repeat, the testimony of others on their panel. To the extent possible, the Board asks that parties with similar views to coordinate their testimony.

If a party wishes to enhance its presentation by using projector-adaptable visual displays and/or handouts, it may do so. Staff will be available to demonstrate the hearing room's projection system on January 29, 2007, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Please call (202) 565-1500, or (202) 565-1653, to make arrangements.

Instructions for Attendance at Hearing

The Board requests that all persons attending the hearing use the Mercury Building's main entrance at 1925 K Street (on the northeast corner of the intersection of 20th and K Streets). There will be no reserved seating. Please plan to arrive early enough to be seated no later than 8:45 a.m. For security reasons, all persons should be prepared to produce photo identification (such as a driver's license), pass through a metal detector, and submit to an inspection of all briefcases, handbags, and any other bags. Visitors must be cleared through security in the Board's Suite 100 (on the 1st Floor, at the top of the ramp to the left of the main lobby) prior to being escorted to the hearing room.

Quiet laptops and tape recorders may be brought into the hearing room, but absolutely no provision will be made for the connection of personal computers to Board telephone lines. Cellular telephone use is not permitted in the hearing room, or in the rear anteroom. Cellular phones may only be used outside the hearing room.

The Board's hearing room complies with the Americans With Disabilities Act, and persons needing such accommodations should call (202) 565-1500, or (202) 565-1653, by the close of business on January 26, 2007.

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. Time for the hearing is allotted as reflected in the Appendix to this decision.
2. This decision is effective on the date of service.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary

APPENDIX

SCHEDULE OF APPEARANCES

January 31, 2007

<u>Party</u>	<u>Time Allotted</u>
Panel I: Government	
United States Department of Transportation Paul S. Smith	5 minutes
Panel II: Shippers/Trade Associations	
Interested Parties (Joint Shipper Group) Nicholas J. DiMichael, Andrew P. Goldstein, Thomas D. Crowley, Gerald W. Fauth III	45 minutes
National Grain & Feed Association Dan Mack	10 minutes
National Industrial Traffic League Doug Kratzberg	10 minutes
Panel III: Shippers/Trade Associations	
Dow Chemical Company Jeffrey O. Moreno	10 minutes
Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation Steve Sharp	10 minutes
Alliance for Rail Competition Michael W. Snovitch	7 minutes

Panel IV: Labor

United Transportation Union-General Committee of Adjustment Gordon P. MacDougal	3 minutes
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Panel V: Railroads

Association of American Railroads Samuel M. Sipe, Jr.	10 minutes
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BNSF Railway Company Richard E. Weicher	10 minutes
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Union Pacific Railroad Company Louise A. Rinn	10 minutes
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Panel VI: Railroads

Canadian National Railway Company Theodore K. Kalick	10 minutes
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Canadian Pacific Railway Company Terence M. Hynes	10 minutes
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CSX Transportation, Inc. G. Paul Moates	10 minutes
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Norfolk Southern Railway Company G. Paul Moates	10 minutes
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Kansas City Southern Railway Company William A. Mullins	10 minutes
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